

[21 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

Failure of CPWD in maintenance of the parks in Government colonies in Delhi

3082. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CPWD has failed to maintain the parks in Government colonies in Delhi;

(b) how much money has been spent on the maintenance of these parks in each of the last three years; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to inquire into the misuse of funds and to privatise the horticulture activities in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir. Maintenance of parks in Govt. colonies is satisfactory although there is scope for improvement. Maintenance of parks is affected by shortage of unfiltered water supply and use of the parks as play grounds by children.

(b) Amount of Rs. 4.3 crores, Rs. 4.68 crores and Rs. 4.93 crores has been spent on maintenance of these parks in the years 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 respectively.

(c) Misuse of funds has not come to notice. There is no proposal to privatise the horticulture activities in CPWD in Delhi.

Devolution of State resources to the Urban Institutions

3083. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the States where the devolution of State resources to the urban institutions has been made as per the 74th Constitution (Amendment) Act, 1992 on the basis of recommendations made by the Finance Commission;

(b) whether the State Governments intentionally delayed the implementation of the devolution of powers to the urban institutions; and

(c) if so, what steps are contemplated by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (c) As per information available, many of the State

Finance Commissions constituted by the State Governments to review the financial position of local bodies, have submitted their reports to the Governors of the respective States. The State Govts, are now in the process of implementing the recommendation of their State Finance Commission. As per Entry 5 of the State List of the Constitution, Local Body is a State subject. In view of this, it is for the State Governments to decide the time-frame within which the recommendations of the State Finance Commission may be implemented. No information is available with the Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation regarding intentional delay by the State Governments in devolution of powers to the Urban Local Bodies.

Policy document on alleviation of poverty

3084. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are formulating a futuristic policy document for alleviation of poverty in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the goals to be achieved have been identified and any time-frame made part of such a policy document; and
- (c) whether people below poverty line would get adequate benefits so that India could say within a foreseeable future that stigma of below poverty line will not be there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (c) The Planning Commission has informed that it has constituted a Committee on 'Vision-2020 for India' under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.P. Gupta, member, Planning Commission. 'Quality of life and indicators of human development including removal of poverty' is one of the terms of reference for the committee. The Committee has since started its deliberations.

**Complaints regarding civil work by residents of Albert Square,
New Delhi**

3085. SHRI GOPAL SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Governments have received complaints in the month of May-June, 2000 from the residents of block No. 9 (Quarter No. 383-412), Albert Square, New Delhi regarding civil work (reduced level of courtyard, Gali-